



Department of Justice

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FEDERAL JURY CONVICTS LEADER OF NEW CASTLE DRUG DISTRIBUTION RING FOLLOWING JURY TRIAL

PRESS RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS - Joseph H. Hogsett, United States Attorney, announced the conviction of Danny Harmon, 56, of New Castle, following a jury trial on drug conspiracy charges before United States District Court Judge Jane Magnus-Stinson, in Indianapolis. The investigation which led to the charges against Harmon was a cooperative effort by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigations Division and the Henry County Indiana Drug Task Force.

Government attorneys presented evidence at trial that Harmon was the leader of a large Arizona to Indiana marijuana distribution conspiracy, responsible for the distribution of thousands of kilograms of the drug beginning in approximately 2004, and continuing until Harmon's arrest in May, 2011. Several additional persons were identified as assisting Harmon in his criminal activities, some of whom made trips between Indiana and Arizona at Harmon's direction, to transport marijuana. In 2009, law enforcement officers in Prescott, Arizona and Tulsa, Oklahoma seized marijuana loads from Harmon co-conspirators which were bound for Indiana. A third marijuana shipment organized by Harmon was seized in Colby, Kansas, in January, 2011. On January 22, 2011, police executed a search warrant at the Henry County property of Harmon's co-conspirator, Bradford Raines, wherein officers discovered additional quantities of marijuana and approximately \$14,000 cash constituting the proceeds of drug sales. The marijuana distributed by Harmon over the course of the conspiracy had a street value in the millions of dollars.

Upon sentencing, Harmon faces penalties of not less than 20 years in federal prison, and a maximum sentence of life in prison without parole. Harmon also faces a potential fine of up to \$20 million dollars, and the judicial forfeiture of real property and vehicles which were derived from his illegal activities. A sentencing hearing will be set before Judge Magnus-Stinson.

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